7. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^4 and R^5 independently represent hydrogen, a C_1-C_4 alkyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted by a hydroxy or dimethyl amino group, a propynyl group or an amidino group.

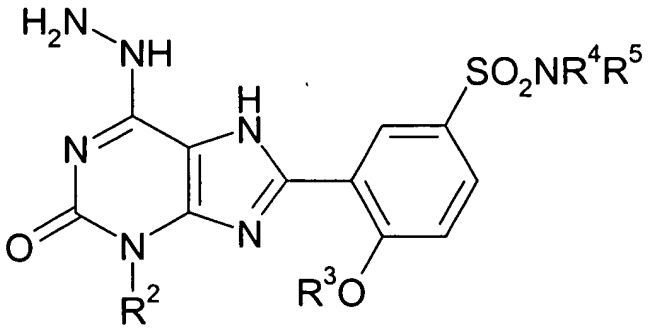
8. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^4 is hydrogen or a C_1-C_4 alkyl group and R^5 represents a group of formula

$$-(CH_2)_nR^7$$

wherein n is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and R^7 is a pyridyl, piperidyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, pyrrolidinyl, 1-ethylaminocyclohex-1-yl, 1-diethylaminocyclohex-1-yl, 1-ethylaminocyclohept-1-yl, 1-diethylaminocyclohept-1-yl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 1-methyl-4-phenylpiperidin-4-yl, imidazoyl, 1-methylpiperid-4-yl, tetrahydrofuranyl, 2,2,6,6,-tetramethylpiperid-4-yl, 4-hydroxypiperid-4-yl, 1-acetamidocyclohept-1-yl, 1-methyl-3-azetidinyl or 4-methylpiperazin-1-yl group.

9. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1 characterised in that it has an IC_{50} value for the inhibition of PDE 5 of less than 30 nM.

11. (Amended) A process for preparing a compound as defined in claim 1 which process comprises reacting a hydrazinopurine derivative of formula (II)



(II)

contd. a4

wherein R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in claim 1, with a carboxylic acid of the general formula (III):

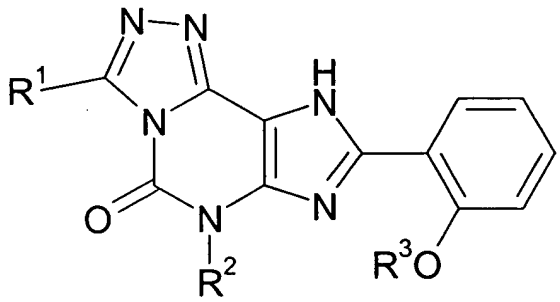
(III) $R^1—CO_2H$

wherein R^1 is as defined in claim 1, or a reactive derivative thereof optionally in the presence of a polar aprotic solvent.

✓

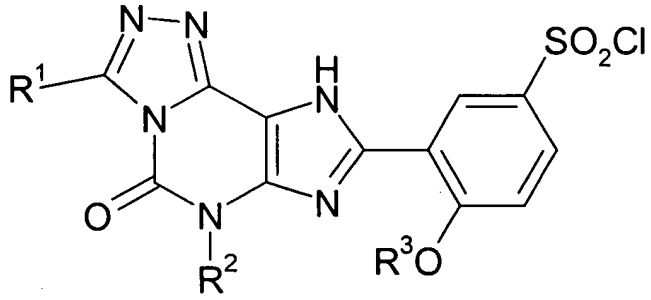
a5

18. (Amended) A process for preparing a compound as defined in claim 1 which process comprises reacting a phenylxanthine of formula (IX):



(IX)

wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1, with chlorosulphonic acid so as to obtain the sulphonyl chloride of formula (X):



(X)

wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1, and reacting the sulphonyl chloride of formula (X) with an amine of formula (VIII):

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